

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /077 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6364

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MO SWEL

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN RED CRESCENT DECIDES NOT TO HOST ICRC MEETING

1. MRS. FATIMA HASSAR, VP OF MOROCCAN LEAGUE FOR PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, CALLED ON ME AUGUST 29 TO CONVEY MESSAGE FROM PRINCESS MALIKA, PRESIDENT OF MOROCCAN RED CRESCENT. MRS. HASSAR SAID THAT WHEN MOROCCO HAD AGREED HOST CONFERENCE SCHEDULED OCTOBER 20 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1 IT WAS NOT ADVISED THAT DELEGATIONS FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND ISRAEL INTENDED TO COME. MRS. HASSAR, WITHOUT FURTHER MENTIONING ISRAEL, SAID THAT REQUEST HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM SOUTH AFRICAN RED CROSS TO ATTEND. PRINCESS MALIKA BROUGHT REQUEST TO ATTENTION OF GOM AND KING, AND GOM UPON CLOSE EXAMINATION OF QUESTION DECIDED IT IMPOSSIBLE PERMIT SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION ATTEND IN VIEW OF UN RESOLUTIONS AND GOM'S LONG POLICY OPPOSING SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME.

2. PRINCESS MALIKA WISHES TO INFORM USG AND US RED CROSS THAT THIS DECISION WAS GOVERNMENTAL ONE, MRS. HASSAR WENT ON, AND TO STRESS THAT MOROCCAN RED CRESCENT CONTINUES ADHERE TO ALL TENETS ITS INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS.

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3. MRS. HASSAR PASSED ME COPY OF AUG 28 TELEGRAM FROM PRINCESS TO M. ERIC MARTIN, PRESIDENT OF ICRC AND M. ROGER GALLOPIN, PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF ICRC. TELEGRAM STATES ONLY THAT GOM HAS REFUSED ACCEPT SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION AND GIVES REASONS FOR ITS REFUSAL, BUT DOES NOT ADDRESS QUESTION OF CHANGING VENUE. COPIES OF TELEGRAM BEING POUCHED SEPARATELY TO ADDRESSEES.

4. VOICING REGRET THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE HELD HERE, I NOTED MOROCCO IS AN IDEAL VENUE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. I TOOK NOTE OF THE GOM'S POSITION AND PROMISED TO INFORM MY GOVERNMENT AND TRANSFER THE PRINCESS' MESSAGE TO AMERICAN RED CROSS. I ALSO TOOK THE OCCASION TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. RED CROSS AND MOROCCAN RED CRESCENT WOULD CONTINUE.

5. COMMENT: IT INTERESTING THAT GOM ANXIOUS TO AVOID PLACING ITS DECISION IN ANTI-ISRAEL CONTEXT, AND IS INSTEAD STRESSING SOUTH AFRICAN ASPECT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT. PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RED CROSS OFFICIALS.
NEUMANN

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